

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 01849 061840Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08
NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 PA-01 /106 W
-----127266 062333Z /70

R 061439Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3670
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL KRAKOW POUCH
AMCONSUL POZNAN POUCH
USMISSION USNATO
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 1849

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN EGEN PL CZ HU IMF COMECON UR
SUBJ: FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT ON POSSIBLE
EAST EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIP ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

1. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ON MARCH 3, CHRISTOPHER
BOBINSKI, WARSAW CORRESPONDENT FOR FINANCIAL TIMES (LONDON)
TOLD EMBASSY E/C COUNSELOR THAT THE MARCH 2 ISSUE OF THE
TIMES CARRIED A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE ON POSSIBLE POLISH,
CZECH AND HUNGARIAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE IMF. THE ARTICLE,
DATELINED WASHINGTON, REPORTEDLY SAYS THAT ALL THREE
COUNTRIES ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING AND THAT THE IMF IS
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 01849 061840Z

SENDING AN OFFICIAL TO WARSAW TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE POLISH
MEMBERSHIP. BOBINSKI DOES NOT HAVE THE TEXT OF THE
ARTICLE AND THE MARCH 2 ISSUE HAS NOT YET REACHED WARSAW.
END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: THE POSSIBILITY OF POLAND JOINING
THE FUND IS A SENSITIVE ONE INVOLVING THEIR

RELATIONSHIP WITH COMECON AND ALSO THE APPROVAL OF THE USSR. UP TO NOW THE COMECON AND SOVIET ATTITUDE ON POLISH AFFILIATION HAS APPARENTLY BEEN NEGATIVE.

3. IF THIS ARTICLE IS AS DESCRIBED BY BOBINSKI, ITS APPEARANCE NOW IS UNFORTUNATE. IT WILL BE EMBARRASSING FOR THE POLES AND COULD SET BACK ANY INTRA-COMECON NEGOTIATIONS THEY MAY HAVE UNDERWAY. IT COULD ALSO LIMIT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANY IMF TALKS WITH THE POLISH GOVERNMENT IF, AS THE ARTICLE ALLEGES, AN IMF OFFICIAL IS ACTUALLY TO BE SENT TO WARSAW. WE ARE AWARE OF HUNGARIAN INTEREST IN JOINING THE FUND, BUT HAVE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF CZECHOSLOVAK MEMBERSHIP MAY BE A BIT FURTHER REMOVED. THE LUMPING OF ALL THREE COUNTRIES TOGETHER MAKES US SUSPECT THAT THE ARTICLE IS BASED MORE ON RUMOR THAN ON FACT. END COMMENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE REGARDING THE REPORT THAT AN IMF OFFICIAL IS COMING HERE FOR TALKS.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT BANKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978WARSAW01849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780101-0641
Format: TEL
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803100/aaaadhht.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 050781b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3101506
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT ON POSSIBLE EAST EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIP ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
TAGS: EFIN, EGEN, PL, CZ, HU, UR, XH, IMF, COMECON
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/050781b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014